

**Title/Date:** 6/4/23 “One heart and soul”  
(10 Prayers for our Church from Acts 4:31-37)

**Acts 4:31-37** 31 And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness. 32 And the congregation of those who believed were of one heart and soul; and not one of them claimed that anything belonging to him was his own, but all things were common property to them. 33 And with great power the apostles were giving testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and abundant grace was upon them all. 34 For there was not a needy person among them, for all who were owners of land or houses would sell them and bring the proceeds of the sales 35 and lay them at the apostles' feet, and they would be distributed to each as any had need. 36 Now Joseph, a Levite of Cyprian birth, who was also called Barnabas by the apostles (which translated means Son of Encouragement), 37 and who owned a tract of land, sold it and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

The Phrase “the congregation of the believing ones were of heart and soul ONE” stood out to Chad, what verse or key things stand out to you...explain why?

**I. Review: Context, Context, Context...Main Ideas of Acts 4 (Points of the Passage)**

1. The Immediate PERSECUTION of the early church
2. The Amazing GROWTH of the early church despite persecution
3. The Passionate Preaching of JESUS by the Apostles – that He is the Christ, crucified but risen, by His name/power/authority people are raised/made well/whole
4. The absolute EXCLUSIVITY of Jesus – Jesus is the only name/source/way for salvation
5. The fearless BOLDNESS and confidence of Peter and John to preach and teach Jesus despite arrest and threats
6. The baseless PROSECUTION, shameless threats, and temporary authority of fallen men over the world
7. The eventual WORSHIP, rejoicing, & fellowship of Christians who endure and persevere through persecution for the sake of their beloved Christ
8. The continued Growth, GRACE, and God's Blessing on the church (Acts 4:31-37)

8 “Bees” (Be like Peter and John...)

1. (4:13a) Be UNASHAMED – speak up, speak out, don't be afraid (Heb. 13:6)
2. (4:13b) Be with Jesus, DWELL with Him, spend much time/quality time with Him (Col. 3:16)
3. (4:14-18) Be WISE, be smart, be strategic with unbelievers (Mt. 10:16, Col. 4:5) – present the evidence (Jesus and His power/healed lame man standing with Peter and John in front of the Sanhedrin)
4. (4:19-20) Be God FEARING not man pleasing – obey God rather than man as the ultimate authority (Ecc.5:7, 12:13, Mt. 10:28, 1 Pet. 2:17, Rev. 14:7)
5. (4:21-22) Be worshipping, GLORIFYING, and praising God for all that He has done, is doing, and will do (Ps. 22:23, Romans 15:6-9, 1 Cor. 6:20, 1 Peter 2:12, 4:16\*)
6. (4:23) Be encouraging, EDIFYING, and sharing/reporting to others all that God is doing in your life (Hebrews 10:24-25)
7. (4:24-28) Be recalling, quoting, reporting, and SHARING much Scripture in our worship and fellowship with one another (Eph. 5:18-20, Col.3:16-17)
8. (4:29-31) Be praying...much in earnest prayer, TRUSTING in God's sovereignty (Luke 18:1, Rom. 12:12, Col 4:2, 1 Thes. 5:7, Eph. 6:18, Phil. 4:6)

Discuss anything from the **CONTEXT** of Acts 4 that you as an individual or us as a church can work on or emulate from the example of the early church?

**II. Introduction: Top 3 weaknesses of TBC (PRAYER, Evangelism, Community Outreach)**

What do you think are the top 3 weaknesses of TBC – how can we by God's grace/power improve them – turn them into strengths?

**III. The Literal Text:** Chad's Translation Acts 4:31-37 And they having pleaded in prayer, the place was shaken in which they were gathered together. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and they spoke the word of God with boldness. And of the multitude of the ones having believed they were one in heart and soul. And not one claimed was his own anything of that which he possessed but were to them all in common. And with great power the apostles were giving the testimony/proof of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. There was great grace on all of them. For neither was poor/needy among them for as many were owners of fields or houses were selling (and) they were bringing the proceeds of the (things) being sold and they were placing alongside the feet of the apostles, and distributing to each according to anyone who had need. And Joseph the one having been called Barnabas by the Apostles which is translated Son of Comfort, a Levite, a Cyprian by birth. Being owner of his field, having sold it, he carried the money and he place towards the feet of the apostles.

What observations do you have... any thoughts/insight from the literal translation of the text?

**IV. Preaching Outline/Main Points - 10 Prayers for our Church... Lord help us by your GRACE to be:**

1. (4:31a) A P\_\_\_\_\_ Church (Mt. 6:5-13, Lk. 18:1, Rom. 12:12, Col. 4:2, Eph. 6:18, 1 Thess. 5:7, Phil. 4:6)
2. (4:31b) A S\_\_\_\_\_ driven Church (Lk. 1:15, 41, 67; Acts 2:4; 4:8, 31; 9:17; 13:9, \*52; Eph. 5:18)
3. (4:31c) An E\_\_\_\_\_ Church (Mt. 28:18-20, Mark 16:15, Luke 24:47, John 20:31, Acts 1:8)
4. (4:32a) A U\_\_\_\_\_ Church (Jn. 17:23, Acts 1:14,2:46,4:24,4:32,5:12,15:25, Rom. 15:6, Eph. 4:3,4:13, Phil. 1:27, 2:2, Col. 3:14)
5. (4:32b) A S\_\_\_\_\_ Church (Acts 2:42-27,4:31-37,Rom. 12:10, Phil. 2:3, Gal.5:25-26, Eph.4:31-32, Col.3:12-17)
6. (4:33a) A P\_\_\_\_\_ Church (Acts 4:33, 6:8) (Mt. 24:30, Mk. 13:26, Lk. 21:27, Rev. 11:17, 19:1)
7. (4:33b) A G\_\_\_\_\_ Church (Acts 4:33, 6:8, James 4:6) (John 1:14) (Titus 1:4, 1 Peter 1:2, 2 Peter 1:2)
8. (4:34a) A C\_\_\_\_\_ Church (Mt. 6:1-4,Acts 2:42-47, 4:31-37,James 1:27, 2:1-16,1 Jn. 3:17-18, 4:20-21, Dt. 15:7-8)
9. (4:34b-35) A S\_\_\_\_\_ Church (Mt. 19:21, Mk. 10:21, Lk. 14:13-14, 19:8, Jn. 13:29, 1 Cor. 13:3) (1 Cor. 16:2, 2 Cor. 8:3-5, 11, 9:7-12)
10. (4:36-37) An E\_\_\_\_\_ Church (Acts 4:36,11:23,14:22,15:31-32,16:40,18:27,27:27-36, \*1Thess. 5:11,14,Heb. 3:13,10:25)

Discuss these 10 prayers...also will you commit to pray for these 10 things to become true (grow/progress) at TBC?

**V. Application: 1 Thessalonians 5:11, Hebrews 3:13-14, Hebrews 10:24-25**

What is ONE thing, one action that God would want you to do this week to apply/put into ACTION Acts 4:31-37?

## V. Extra Study on Barnabas – Be an Encourager like Barnabas (Βαρναβᾶς)

**Barnabas** = "son of rest" - the surname of Joses or Joseph, a Levite, a native of Cyprus He was a distinguished Christian teacher and companion and colleague of Paul. of Aramaic origin (01247) from (05029)Bar (Aramaic) –Son. neb-ee' – prophet

**Fox's Book of Martyr's:** Barnabas Was of Cyprus, but of Jewish descent, his death is supposed to have taken place about A.D. 73. And yet, notwithstanding all these continual persecutions and horrible punishments, the Church daily increased, deeply rooted in the doctrine of the apostles and of men apostolical, and watered plentifully with the blood of saints.

### **Nave's Bible Dictionary:**Barnabas - Also called JOSES

A prophet - Acts 13:1

An apostle - Acts 14:14

A Levite who gave his possessions to be owned in common with other disciples - Acts 4:36-37

Brings him to the apostles - Acts 9:25-27

Accompanies Paul to Jerusalem - Acts 11:30

Returns with Paul to Antioch (of Syria) - Acts 12:25

Goes with Paul to Seleucia - Acts 13

Goes with Paul to Iconium - Acts 14:1-7

Called Jupiter (Zeus) - Acts 14:12-18

Goes to Derbe - Acts 14:20

Is sent as an emissary to Jerusalem - Acts 15 ; Galatians 2:1-9

Disaffected toward Paul - Acts 15:36-39

Is reconciled to Paul - 1 Corinthians 9:6

Piety of - Acts 11:24

Devotion of, to Jesus - Acts 15:26

### **Treasury of Scriptural Knowledge: Acts 4:36**

And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas, (which is, being interpreted, The son of consolation,) a Levite, and of the country of Cyprus,

Barnabas: Acts 11:22-25 Acts 11:30 12:25 13:1 Acts 15:2 Acts 15:12 Acts 15:37 1 Corinthians 9:6 ; Galatians 2:1 Galatians 2:9 Galatians 2:13

Cyprus: Acts 11:19 Acts 11:20 15:39 21:16

**Easton Bible Dictionary:** Barnabas - son of consolation, the surname of Joses, a Levite ( Acts 4:36 ). His name stands first on the list of prophets and teachers of the church at Antioch ( 13:1 ). Luke speaks of him as a "good man" ( 11:24 ). He was born of Jewish parents of the tribe of Levi. He was a native of Cyprus, where he had a possession of land ( Acts 4:36 Acts 4:37 ), which he sold. His personal appearance is supposed to have been dignified and commanding ( Acts 14:11 Acts 14:12 ). When Paul returned to Jerusalem after his conversion, Barnabas took him and introduced him to the apostles ( 9:27 ). They had probably been companions as students in the school of Gamaliel.

The prosperity of the church at Antioch led the apostles and brethren at Jerusalem to send Barnabas thither to superintend the movement. He found the work so extensive and weighty that he went to Tarsus in search of Saul to assist him. Saul returned with him to Antioch and laboured with him for a whole year ( Acts 11:25 Acts 11:26 ). The two were at the end of this period sent up to Jerusalem with the contributions the church at Antioch had made for the poorer brethren there ( 11:28-30 ). Shortly after they returned, bringing John Mark with them, they were appointed as missionaries to the heathen world, and in this capacity visited Cyprus and some of the principal cities of Asia Minor ( Acts 13:14 ). Returning from this first missionary journey to Antioch, they were again sent up to Jerusalem to consult with the church there regarding the relation of Gentiles to the church ( Acts 15:2 : Galatians 2:1 ). This matter having been settled, they returned again to Antioch, bringing the decree of the council as the rule by which Gentiles were to be admitted into the church.

When about to set forth on a second missionary journey, a dispute arose between Saul and Barnabas as to the propriety of taking John Mark with them again. The dispute ended by Saul and Barnabas taking separate routes. Saul took Silas as his companion, and journeyed through Syria and Cilicia; while Barnabas took his nephew John Mark, and visited Cyprus ( Acts 15:36-41 ). Barnabas is not again mentioned by Luke in the Acts.

**Smith's Bible Dictionary** **Barnabas** (son of consolation or comfort ) a name given by the apostles, ( Acts 4:36 ) to Joseph (or Jose), a Levite of the island of Cyprus, who was early a disciple of Christ. In ( Acts 9:27 ) we find him introducing the newly-converted Saul to the apostles at Jerusalem. Barnabas was sent to Jerusalem, ( Acts 11:19-26 ) and went to Tarsus to seek Saul, as one specially raised up to preach to the Gentiles. ( Acts 26:17 ) He brought him to Antioch, and was sent with him to Jerusalem. ( Acts 11:30 ) On their return, they were ordained by the church for the missionary work, ( Acts 13:2 ) and sent forth (A.D. 45). From this time Barnabas and Paul enjoy the title and dignity of apostles. Their first missionary journey is related in ( Acts 13:14 ) Returning to Antioch (A.D. 47 or 48), they were sent (A.D. 50), with some others, to Jerusalem. ( Acts 15:1 Acts 15:36 ) Afterwards they parted and Barnabas took Mark and sailed to Cyprus, his native island. Here the Scripture notices of him cease. The epistle attributed to Barnabas is believed to have been written early in the second century.

# TRUTH BIBLE CHURCH



## FOLLOWERS OF JESUS SEEKING TO...

### LOVE GOD SUPREMELY

**Matthew 22:37-38** <sup>37</sup> And He said to him, "YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND." <sup>38</sup> "This is the great and foremost commandment.

### SERVE PEOPLE SINCERELY

**Matthew 22:39** <sup>39</sup> "The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.'


**John 13:34-35** <sup>34</sup> "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. <sup>35</sup> "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

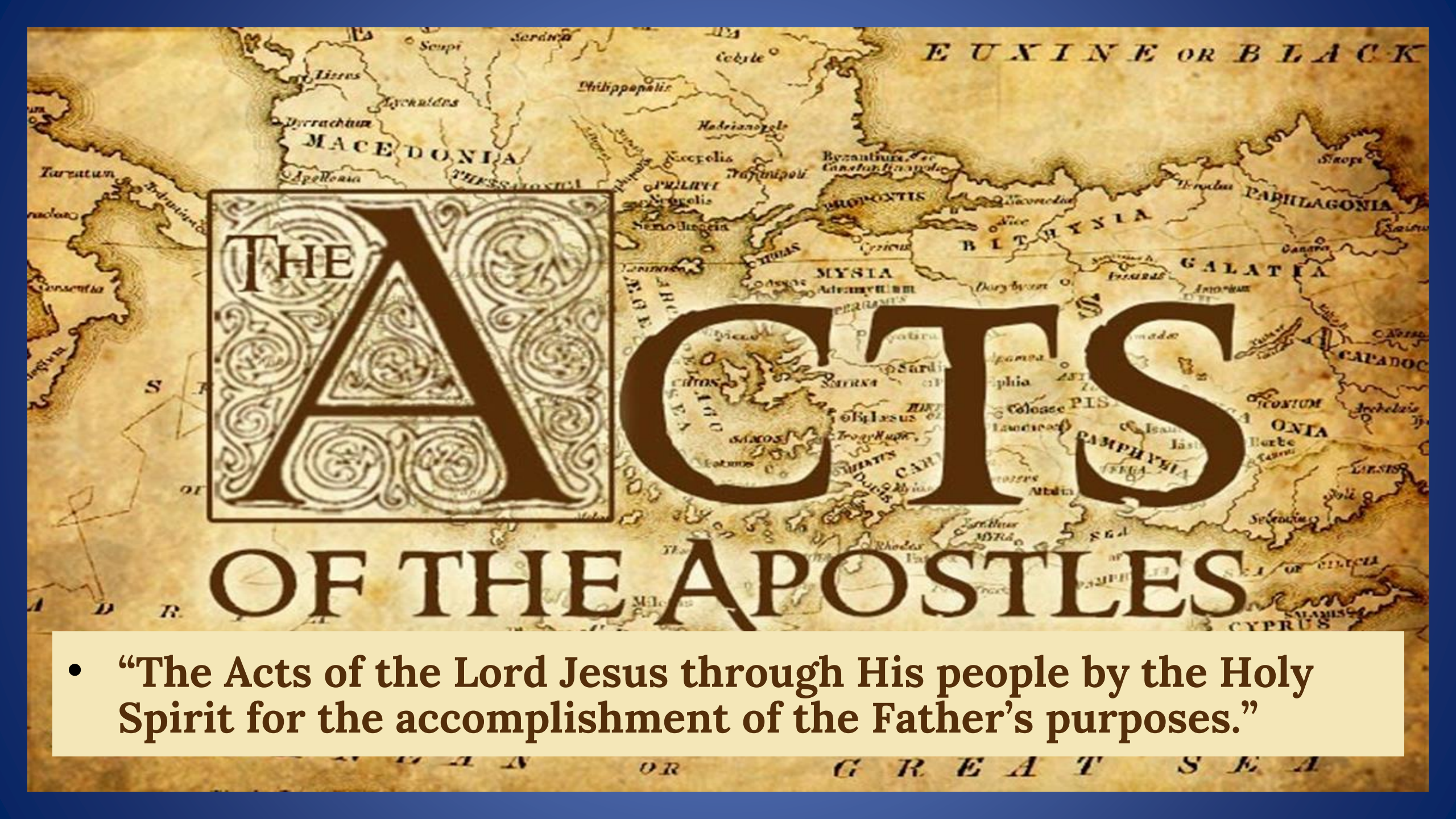
### REACH THE LOST URGENTLY

**Matthew 28:19-20** <sup>19</sup> "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

## *Acts 4:31-37*

<sup>31</sup> After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly. <sup>32</sup> All the believers were one in heart and mind. No-one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. <sup>33</sup> With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup> There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales <sup>35</sup> and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need. <sup>36</sup> Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means Son of Encouragement), <sup>37</sup> sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.





# THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

- “The Acts of the Lord Jesus through his people by the Holy Spirit for the accomplishment of the Father’s purposes.”

HOLY  
BIBLE

**CONTEXT**

**CONTEXT**

**CONTEXT**

## Review: Main idea(s) of Acts 4 - What is/are the Point(s) of the Passage

1. The Immediate PERSECUTION of the early church
2. The Amazing GROWTH of the early church despite persecution
3. The Passionate Preaching of JESUS by the Apostles – that He is the Christ, crucified but risen, by His name/power/authority people are raised/made well/whole
4. The absolute EXCLUSIVITY of Jesus – Jesus is the only name/source/way for salvation
5. The fearless BOLDNESS and confidence of Peter and John to preach and teach Jesus despite arrest and threats
6. The baseless PROSECUTION, shameless threats, and temporary authority of fallen men over the world
7. The eventual WORSHIP, rejoicing, and fellowship of Christians who endure and persevere through persecution for the sake of their beloved Christ
8. **The continued Growth, GRACE, and God's Blessing on the church (Acts 4:31-37)**

# Review: Acts 7:13-31

## 8 “Bees”

1. (4:13a) Be UNASHAMED – speak up, speak out, don't be afraid (Heb. 13:6)
2. (4:13b) Be with Jesus, DWELL with Him, spend much time/quality time with Him (Col. 3:16)
3. (4:14-18) Be WISE, be smart, be strategic with unbelievers (Mt. 10:16, Col. 4:5) – present the evidence (Jesus and His power/healed lame man standing with Peter and John in front of the Sanhedrin)
4. (4:19-20) Be God FEARING not man pleasing – obey God rather than man as the ultimate authority (Ecclesiastes 5:7, 12:13, Mt. 10:28, 1 Pet. 2:17, Rev. 14:7)
5. (4:21-22) Be worshipping, GLORIFYING, and praising God for all that He has done, is doing, and will do (Ps. 22:23, Romans 15:6-9, 1 Cor. 6:20, 1 Peter 2:12, 4:16\*)
6. (4:23) Be encouraging, EDIFYING, and sharing/reporting to others all that God is doing in your life (Hebrews 10:24-25)
7. (4:24-28) Be recalling, quoting, reporting, and SHARING much Scripture in our worship and fellowship with one another (Ephesians 5:18-20, Colossians 3:16-17)
8. (4:29-31) Be praying...much in earnest prayer, TRUSTING in God's sovereignty (Luke 18:1, Rom. 12:12, Col 4:2, 1 Thes. 5:7, Eph. 6:18, Phil. 4:6)



## 8 "Bees" from Acts 4:13-31

7. (4:24-28) Be recalling, quoting, reporting, and SHARING much Scripture in our worship and fellowship with one another (Ephesians 5:18-20, Colossians 3:16-17)

Acts 4:24-28 <sup>24</sup> And when they heard this, they lifted their voices to God with one accord and said, "O Lord, it is You who MADE THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH AND THE SEA, AND ALL THAT IS IN THEM, <sup>25</sup> who by the Holy Spirit, through the mouth of our father David Your servant, said, 'WHY DID THE GENTILES RAGE, AND THE PEOPLES DEVISE FUTILE THINGS? <sup>26</sup> 'THE KINGS OF THE EARTH TOOK THEIR STAND, AND THE RULERS WERE GATHERED TOGETHER AGAINST THE LORD AND AGAINST HIS CHRIST.' <sup>27</sup> "For truly in this city there were gathered together against Your holy servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, <sup>28</sup> to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose predestined to occur.

- Exodus 20:11, Nehemiah 9:6, Psalm 146:6, Psalm 2:1



When you go through a trial, the sovereignty of God is the pillow upon which you lay your head.

~ Charles Spurgeon

## 8 "Bees" from Acts 4:13-31

8. (4:29-31) Be praying...much in earnest prayer, TRUSTING in God's sovereignty (Luke 18:1, Rom. 12:12, Col 4:2, 1 Thes. 5:7, Eph. 6:18, Phil. 4:6)

Acts 4:29-31 <sup>29</sup> "And now, Lord, take note of their threats, and grant that Your bond-servants may speak Your word with all confidence, <sup>30</sup> while You extend Your hand to heal, and signs and wonders take place through the name of Your holy servant Jesus." <sup>31</sup> And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness.

# SO WHAT?

## Application



### **Ephesians 6:18-20**

**<sup>18</sup> With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints, <sup>19</sup> and pray on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup> for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in proclaiming it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.**

Sermon Title:

*Of One*  
HEART  
*and*  
SOUL

**“And the congregation of those who believed were of one heart and soul.”**

ACTS 4:32


# Preaching Outline: Acts 4:31-37

10 Prayers for our Church... Lord help us by your GRACE to be:

1. (4:31a) A PRAYING Church (Mt. 6:5-13, Lk. 18:1, Rom. 12:12, Col. 4:2, Eph. 6:18, 1 Thess. 5:7, Phil. 4:6)
2. (4:31b) A SPIRIT driven Church (Lk. 1:15, 41, 67; Acts 2:4; 4:8, 31; 9:17; 13:9, \*52; Eph. 5:18)
3. (4:31c) An EVANGELIZING Church (Mt. 28:18-20, Mark 16:15, Luke 24:47, John 20:31, Acts 1:8)
4. (4:32a) A UNIFIED Church (Jn. 17:23, Acts 1:14, 2:46, 4:24, 4:32, 5:12, 15:25, Rom. 15:6, Eph. 4:3, 4:13, Phil. 1:27, 2:2, Col. 3:14)
5. (4:32b) A SELFLESS Church (Acts 2:42-27, 4:31-37, Rom. 12:10, Phil. 2:3, Gal. 5:25-26, Eph. 4:31-32, Col. 3:12-17)
6. (4:33a) A POWERFUL Church (Acts 4:33, 6:8) (Mt. 24:30, Mk. 13:26, Lk. 21:27, Rev. 11:17, 19:1)
7. (4:33b) A GRACEFUL Church (Acts 4:33, 6:8, James 4:6) (John 1:14) (Titus 1:4, 1 Peter 1:2, 2 Peter 1:2)
8. (4:34a) A COMPASSIONATE Church (Mt. 6:1-4, Acts 2:42-47, 4:31-37, James 1:27, 2:1-16, 1 Jn. 3:17-18, 4:20-21, Dt. 15:7-8)
9. (4:34b-35) A SACRIFICIAL Church (Mt. 19:21, Mk. 10:21, Lk. 14:13-14, 19:8, Jn. 13:29, 1 Cor. 13:3) (1 Cor. 16:2, 2 Cor. 8:3-5, 11, 9:7-12)
10. (4:36-37) An ENCOURAGING Church (Acts 4:36, 11:23, 14:22, 15:31-32, 16:40, 18:27, 27:27-36, \*1 Thess. 5:11, 14, Heb. 3:13, 10:25)

## **Acts 4:31-37**

<sup>31</sup> After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly. <sup>32</sup> All the believers were one in heart and mind. No-one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. <sup>33</sup> With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup> There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales <sup>35</sup> and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need. <sup>36</sup> Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means Son of Encouragement), <sup>37</sup> sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.



# Introduction:

- Top 3 weaknesses of TBC
  1. PRAYER
  2. Evangelism
  3. Community Outreach



## Acts 4:31-37 Transliteration/Translation

31 καὶ δεηθέντων αὐτῶν ἐσαλεύθη ὁ τόπος ἐν ᾧ ἦσαν

and having asked urgently/pleaded in prayer they was shaken the place in which they

συνηγμένοι, καὶ ἐπλήσθησαν ἅπαντες τοῦ ἁγίου πνεύματος

were gathered together and they were filled all of the Holy Spirit

καὶ ἐλάλουν τὸν λόγον τοῦ θεοῦ μετὰ παρρησίας. 32 Τοῦ δὲ

and they spoke the word of the God with boldness/confidence of the but

πλήθους τῶν πιστευσάντων ἦν καρδία καὶ ψυχὴ μία, καὶ οὐδὲ

multitude of the having believed were heart and soul one and not

εἷς τι τῶν ὑπαρχόντων αὐτῷ ἔλεγεν ἴδιον εἶναι ἀλλ' ἦν αὐτοῖς

one anything of that which owned/possessed his he said/claimed was his own to be but were to them

ἅπαντα κοινά. 33 καὶ δυνάμει μεγάλη ἀπεδίδουν τὸ

all in common and (with) power great were giving the

μαρτύριον οἱ ἀπόστολοι τῆς ἀναστάσεως τοῦ κυρίου Ἰησοῦ,

testimony the apostles of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus

## Acts 4:31-37 Transliteration/Translation

χάρις τε μεγάλη ἦν ἐπὶ πάντας αὐτούς. <sup>34</sup> οὐδὲ γὰρ ἐνδεής

grace was great/abundant was on all of them neither for poor/needy

τις ἦν ἐν αὐτοῖς· ὅσοι γὰρ κτήτορες χωρίων ἢ οἰκιῶν ὑπῆρχον,

There was in/among them as many as for owners of fields or houses were

πωλοῦντες ἔφερον τὰς τιμὰς τῶν πιπρασκομένων <sup>35</sup> καὶ

selling they were bringing the proceeds of the being sold and

ἐτίθουν παρὰ τοὺς πόδας τῶν ἀποστόλων, διεδίδετο δὲ

They were placing alongside the feet of the apostles distributing and

ἐκάστω καθότι ἂν τις χρεῖαν εἶχεν.

to each according to anyone need had

## Acts 4:31-37 Transliteration/Translation

36 Ἰωσήφ δὲ ὁ ἐπικληθεὶς

Joseph but the one having been called

Βαρναβᾶς ἀπὸ τῶν ἀποστόλων, ὃ ἐστὶν μεθερμηνευόμενον

Barnabas by the Apostles which is translated /interpreted

υἱὸς παρακλήσεως, Λευίτης, Κύπριος τῷ γένει, 37

Son of comfort/encouragement a Levite Cyprian the race/kind (also by birth)

ὑπάρχοντος αὐτῷ ἀγροῦ πωλήσας ἤνεγκεν τὸ χρῆμα καὶ

Being owner his field having sold he carried the money/wealth and

ἔθηκεν πρὸς τοὺς πόδας τῶν ἀποστόλων.

he placed towards the feet of the apostles

## Chad's Literal Translation:

And they having pleaded in prayer, the place was shaken in which they were gathered together. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and they spoke the word of God with boldness. And of the multitude of the ones having believed they were one in heart and soul. And not one claimed was his own anything of that which he possessed but were to them all in common. And with great power the apostles were giving the testimony/proof of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. There was great grace on all of them. For neither was poor/needy among them for as many were owners of fields or houses were selling (and) they were bringing the proceeds of the (things) being sold and they were placing alongside the feet of the apostles, and distributing to each according to anyone who had need. And Joseph the one having been called Barnabas by the Apostles which is translated Son of Comfort, a Levite, a Cyprian by birth. Being owner of his field, having sold it, he carried the money and he place towards the feet of the apostles.

## Literal Standard Version (2020): Acts 4:31-37

31 And they having prayed, the place was shaken in which they were gathered together, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and were speaking the word of God with freedom, 32 and of the multitude of those who believed, the heart and the soul were one, and not one was saying that anything of the things he had was his own, but all things were in common to them. 33 And with great power the apostles were giving the testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, great grace was also on them all, 34 for there was not anyone among them who lacked, for as many as were possessors of fields, or houses, selling [them], were bringing the prices of the thing sold, 35 and were laying them at the feet of the apostles, and distribution was being made to each according as anyone had need. 36 And Joses, who was surnamed by the apostles Barnabas—which is, having been interpreted, Son of Comfort—a Levite, of Cyprus by birth, 37 a field being his, having sold [it], brought the money and laid [it] at the feet of the apostles.

# The Legacy Standard Bible (2020)

<sup>31</sup> And when they had prayed earnestly, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and *began to* speak the word of God with confidence.

## DISTRIBUTION AMONG NEEDY BELIEVERS

<sup>32</sup> And the congregation of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and not one was saying that any of his possessions was his own, but, for them, everything was common.

<sup>33</sup> And with great power the apostles were bearing witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.

<sup>34</sup> For there was not a needy person among them, for all who were owners of land or houses would sell them and bring the proceeds of the sales  
<sup>35</sup> and lay them at the apostles' feet, and they would be distributed to each as any had need.

<sup>36</sup> Now Joseph, a Levite of Cyprian birth, who was also called Barnabas by the apostles (which translated means Son of Encouragement),  
<sup>37</sup> and who owned a field, sold it and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

10 Prayers for our church from Acts 4:31-37... Lord help us be by your grace to be:

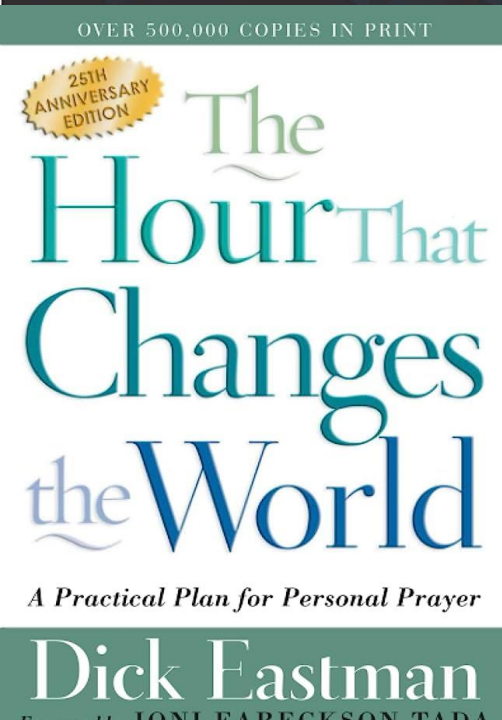
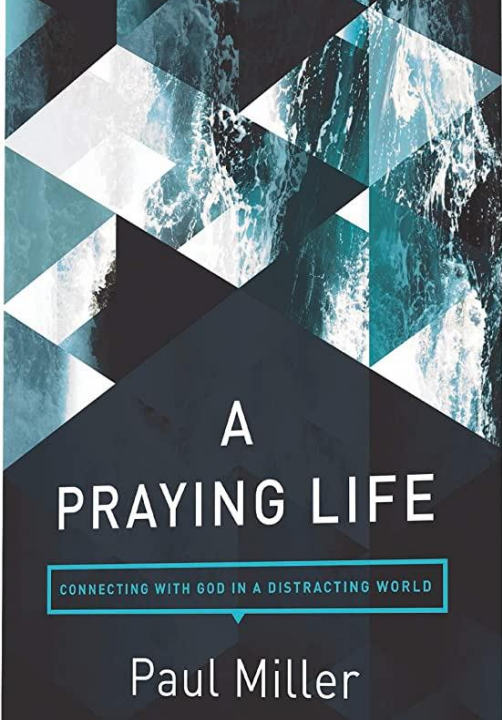
# 1. (4:31a) A PRAYING Church

Acts 4:31 And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness.

δέομαι *deomai*:

to want, entreat

- Mt. 6:5-13 – Lord teach us to pray
- Lk. 18:1 – parable about persistent prayer / perseverance in prayer
- Rom. 12:12, Col. 4:2 – devoted to prayer
- Eph. 6:18, 1 Thess. 5:7 - Prayer at all times
- Phil. 4:6, 1 Peter 5:7 - Pray about everything /cast all your cares on Him...He care for you



So... How can we get our church to PRAY?



10 Prayers for our church from Acts 4:31-37... Lord help us be by your grace to be:

## 2. (4:31b) A SPIRIT driven Church

Acts 4:31 And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness.

πίμπλημι *pimplemi*: to fill full of

- Lk. 1:15, 41, 67; (John the Baptist, Elizabeth, Zacharias)
- Acts 2:4; 4:8, 31; 9:17; 13:9, \*52; (Apostles/Early Church)
- Eph. 5:18 (be filled/controlled/empowered by the Holy Spirit instead of other things like alcohol)



**spirit filled**

**So... How can we get our church to more FILLED/EMPOWERED by the Holy Spirit?**

10 Prayers for our church from Acts 4:31-37... Lord help us be by your grace to be:

## 3. (4:31c) An EVANGELIZING Church

Acts 4:31 And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness.

- Mt. 28:18-20, Mark 16:15, Luke 24:47, John 20:31 (Great Commission in the gospels)
- Acts 1:8 (Great Commission in Acts/to the early church)

λαλέω *laleo*: to talk, **Origin**: from λαλός *lalos* (*talkative*)

παρρησία *parresia*: freedom of speech, confidence



# THE UNREACHED CANNOT GO TO HEAVEN IF THEY DO NOT HEAR THE GOSPEL

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

TAKING BACK  
YOUR FAITH  
FROM THE  
AMERICAN DREAM

RADICAL



DAVID  
PLATT

*"David Platt challenges Christians to wake up, trade in false values rooted in the American dream, and embrace the mission that each of us is blessed by God for a global purpose... This is a new road for every believer!"*  
—WESS STAFFORD, president and CEO, Compassion International

How can people put their faith in Jesus if they never hear of Jesus? How does God intend to reach the unreached people of the world? In this video, Pastor David Platt calls Christians to share the gospel because they are God's primary vessel of salvation in the world. Pastor Platt reminds Christians that Jesus commands his church to make the gospel known to all nations so that they can hear, believe, and be saved. Often this sequence breaks down when Christians internalize the story of the gospel but fail to share it with others. When we remember God chose in his sovereignty to save the world through humans sharing the gospel, our evangelism can be reinvigorated.

1. Salvation by Hearing and Believing
2. The Great Commission
3. There is No Plan B

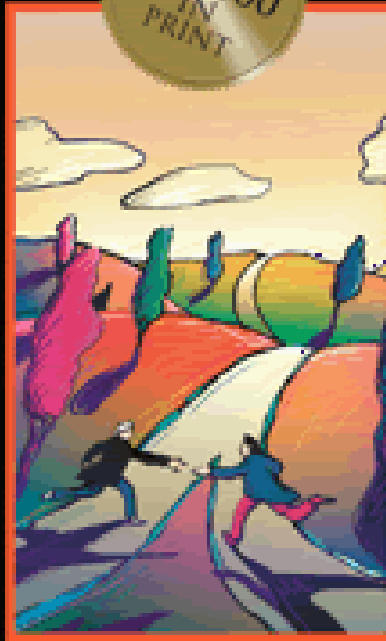
atch the full message of **What Happens to  
People Who Never Hear the Gospel?**

"Filled with fascinating accounts, practical tips, and sobering wisdom on evangelism" —BILL BRIGHT

# ONE THING YOU CAN'T DO IN HEAVEN

MARK CAHILL

OVER  
600,000  
IN  
PRINT



Free Study Guide Available Online at [www.markcahill.org](http://www.markcahill.org)

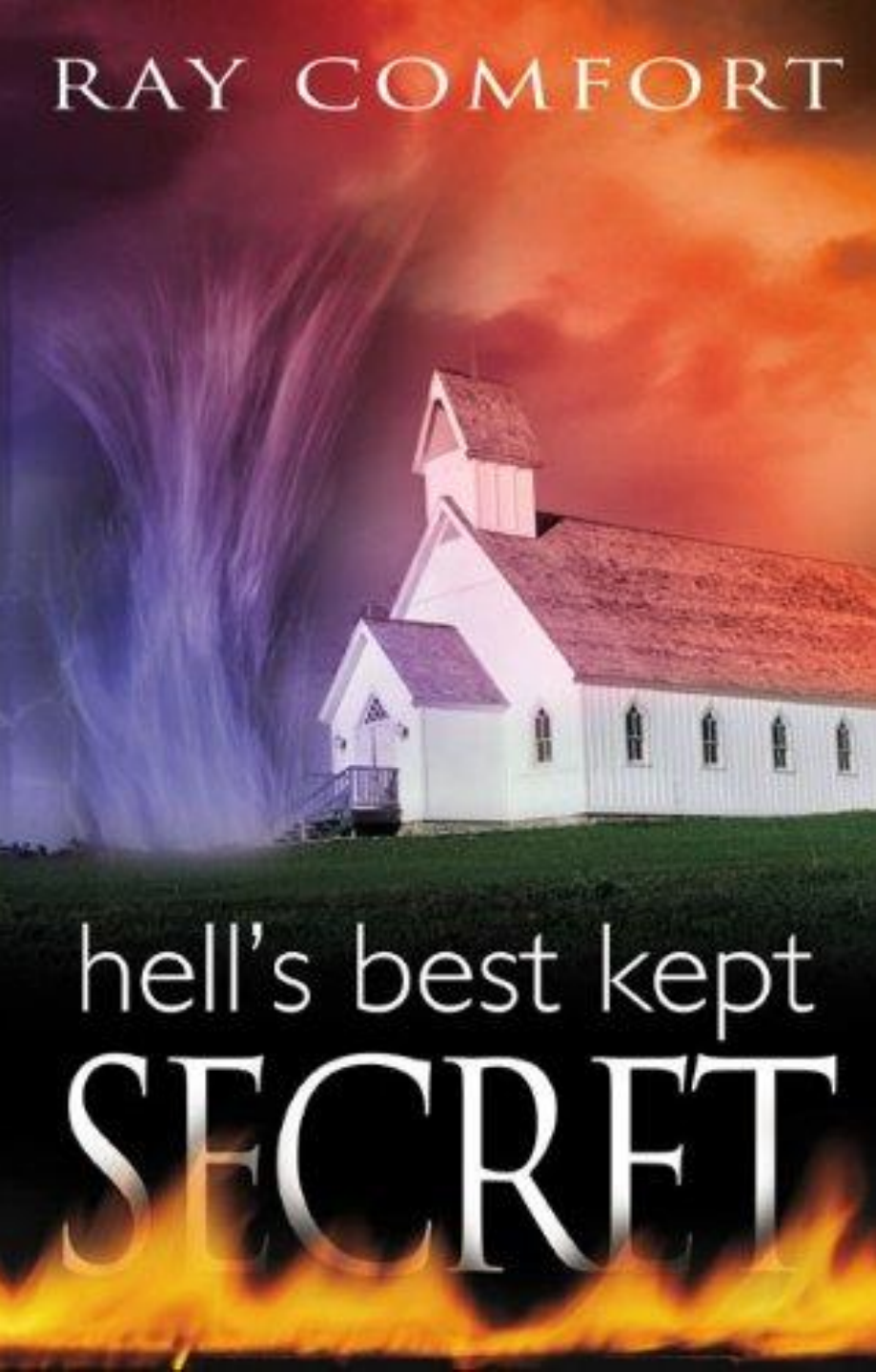
Are you ready for eternity? If so, are you helping others get ready for the journey into eternity that each of us must take? As believers, we all know we *should* tell others about the Lord, but we often don't know *how*. This practical book gives you great ideas for starting conversations, examples of witnessing situations, and the answers to common questions to help encourage, challenge, and equip you to reach both friends and strangers for Jesus the rest of your life!

Learn to overcome common misconceptions about sharing your faith, how to turn every conversation with the lost into a winning situation, the value of using tracts, follow-up questions that get people thinking about eternity, and the four deadly questions that will have even the toughest skeptic thinking.

Equip yourself with great conversation starters. Learn the value of using the Ten Commandments to warn the lost of their standing before God. Then lead them right to Jesus Christ and His sacrifice on the cross for their sins.

God is looking for men and women who are willing to step out of their comfort zone and into the most blessed life of faith a Christian can ever hope to have. Give God the best "*thank you*" for your salvation by reaching the lost souls around you with the promise of eternal life! Incredible divine appointments await all those who do!

RAY COMFORT



hell's best kept  
**SECRET**

In this book, *Hell's Best Kept Secret*, Comfort focuses on the fact that Christians today tend to try evangelism without any mention of sin or the Law. In fact (spoiler alert), the Law itself is “Hell’s Best Kept Secret”! He suggests that when we share the Good News of Christ and fail to mention the bad news of sin, the Law or Hell, we only gain in our converts individuals who are destined to eventually doubt their salvation and quite possibly leave the faith altogether once the struggles of life set in. He candidly attacks the “social gospels” of today, attempts by believers to “love people into the kingdom.” Such weak efforts, he suggests, scrape against everything Christ ever taught and dilute the true nature of the Gospel. As my pastor is prone to teach, in sharing the Good News without the bad (or in not sharing the Good News at all), we only end up “loving people right into Hell.” It is at this realization of the truth that we believers need to ask ourselves, “What in the world are we doing!?”

SHARE  
JESUS  
WITHOUT  
FEAR

WILLIAM FAY

OVER 200,000 IN PRINT

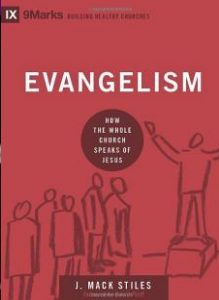
# THE WAY OF THE MASTER



RAY COMFORT

FOREWORD AND COMMENTARY BY

KIRK CAMERON



# EVANGELISM

HOW TO SHARE THE GOSPEL FAITHFULLY

JOHN MACARTHUR

and THE PASTORS AND MISSIONARIES OF GRACE  
COMMUNITY CHURCH

So... How can we get our church to be SHARING the GOSPEL as we are GOING?

10 Prayers for our church from Acts 4:31-37... Lord help us be by your grace to be:

# 4. (4:32a) A UNIFIED Church


Acts 4:32 And the congregation of those who believed were of one heart and soul; and not one of them claimed that anything belonging to him was his own, but all things were common property to them.

- Jn. 17:23 – Jesus praying for the unity of the church
- Acts 1:14, 2:46, 4:24, 4:32, 5:12, 15:25, Rom. 15:6 (one heart, one mind, one accord)
- Eph. 4:3, 4:13, Phil. 1:27, 2:2, Col. 3:14 (unity in the church)

Acts 4:32 καρδία καὶ ψυχὴ μία  
heart and soul one



So... How can we ENCOURAGE each other more and be more united in heart and soul?



And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another — and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

- Hebrews 10:24-25 -



7 Ways  
Satan

Tries to Destroy the Church

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10 Prayers for our church from Acts 4:31-37... Lord help us be by your grace to be:

## 5. (4:32b) A SELFLESS Church

Acts 4:32 And the congregation of those who believed were of one heart and soul; and not one of them claimed that anything belonging to him was his own, but all things were common property to them.

- Acts 2:42-27,4:31-37,
- Rom. 12:10,
- Phil. 2:3, Gal.5:25-26, Eph.4:31-32, Col.3:12-17

Acts 4:32 καὶ οὐδὲ εἷς τι τῶν ὑπαρχόντων αὐτῷ ἔλεγεν ἴδιον εἶναι  
and not one anything of that which owned/possessed his he said/claimed was his own to be

GOD OWNS IT ALL  
(we are just His managers)

*The  
earth  
is the  
Lord's  
and everything in it.*  
*1 Corinthians 10:26*

So... How can we be more SELFLESS as far as our possessions?

6-SESSION  
BIBLE STUDY



# GOD OWNS IT ALL

FINDING CONTENTMENT AND  
CONFIDENCE IN YOUR FINANCES

RON BLUE

*How to*  
**MANAGE**  
*Your*  
**MONEY**

An In-Depth  
Bible Study  
On Personal  
Finances



**LARRY BURKETT**

How we use our money is the clearest outside indicator of what we really believe.... If someone is a true disciple of Jesus Christ, the evidence will be found in that person's everyday life - including his or her use of money.

— *Larry Burkett* —

**AZ QUOTES**

10 Prayers for our church from Acts 4:31-37... Lord help us be by your grace to be:

## 6. (4:33a) A POWERFUL Church

Acts 4:33 And with great power the apostles were giving testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and abundant grace was upon them all.

- Acts 4:33, 6:8 (power from God in the early church)
- (Son of Man coming with great power and glory - Mt. 24:30, Mk. 13:26, Lk. 21:27)
- (Jesus' great power – when He begins to reign Rev. 11:17)
- (Salvation, power, and glory belong to God – Rev. 19:1)

Acts 4:33 δυνάμει μεγάλη  
power great/mighty



Charles Spurgeon  
Quotes

**“A Prayerful Church is a Powerful Church”**



# A Powerful Church

A Study in  
the Book of Acts

So... How can we tap into more of God's POWER and invest in eternal things that last?

10 Prayers for our church from Acts 4:31-37... Lord help us be by your grace to be:

## 7. (4:33b) A GRACEFUL Church

Acts 4:33 And with great power the apostles were giving testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and abundant grace was upon them all.

- Acts 4:33, 6:8, James 4:6 (God's blessing on church)
- John 1:14 (Jesus full of grace and truth)
- Titus 1:4, 1 Peter 1:2, 2 Peter 1:2 (Grace and Peace)
- [Friberg] **χάρις, grace**; (1) as a quality that adds delight or pleasure *graciousness, attractiveness, charm* (LU 4.22); (2) as a favorable attitude; (a) active, of what is felt toward another *goodwill, favor* (AC 2.47); (b) as a religious technical term for God's attitude toward human beings *kindness, grace, favor, helpfulness* (JN 1.16, 17; EP 2.8); (3) concretely; (a) of exceptional effects produced by God's favor *ability, power, enabling* (RO 12.6; 1C 15.10); (b) of practical proofs of goodwill from one person to another *kind deed, benefit, favor* (AC 24.27; 2C 1.15); *collection for the poor, generous gift* (1C 16.3); (4) as an experience or state resulting from God's favor *state of grace, favored position* (RO 5.2); (5) as a verbal thank offering to God *gratitude, thanks* (1C 15.57; 2C 9.15); (6) as contained in formulas that express greetings or farewell in letters *goodwill, favor, blessing* (RO 1.7; 16.20)



# A M A Z I N G g r a c e

So... How can we be more FULL of God's grace/favor/blessing on our church?

χάρις *charis*: grace, kindness

[Fri] **χάρις, ιτος, ἡ** grace; (1) as a quality that adds delight or pleasure *graciousness, attractiveness, charm* (LU 4.22); (2) as a favorable attitude; (a) active, of what is felt toward another *goodwill, favor* (AC 2.47); (b) as a religious technical term for God's attitude toward human beings *kindness, grace, favor, helpfulness* (JN 1.16, 17; EP 2.8); (3) concretely; (a) of exceptional effects produced by God's favor *ability, power, enabling* (RO 12.6; 1C 15.10); (b) of practical proofs of goodwill from one person to another *kind deed, benefit, favor* (AC 24.27; 2C 1.15); *collection for the poor, generous gift* (1C 16.3); (4) as an experience or state resulting from God's favor *state of grace, favored position* (RO 5.2); (5) as a verbal thank offering to God *gratitude, thanks* (1C 15.57; 2C 9.15); (6) as contained in formulas that express greetings or farewell in letters *goodwill, favor, blessing* (RO 1.7; 16.20)

χάρις

*charis*

(*chairō*); *graciousness* (as gratifying), of manner or act (abstract or concrete; literal, figurative or spiritual; especially the divine influence upon the heart, and its reflection in the life, including gratitude) :- acceptable, benefit, favour, gift, grace (-ious), joy, liberality, pleasure, thank (-s, -worthy) †

10 Prayers for our church from Acts 4:31-37... Lord help us be by your grace to be:

## 8. (4:34a) A COMPASSIONATE Church

Acts 4:34-35 For there was not a needy person among them, for all who were owners of land or houses would sell them and bring the proceeds of the sales and lay them at the apostles' feet, and they would be distributed to each as any had need.

- Mt. 6:1-4, Acts 2:42-47, 4:31-37
- James 1:27, 2:1-16, 1 Jn. 3:17-18, 4:20-21
- Dt. 15:7-8

*ἐνδεής* *endees*: **needy**, **Origin**: from *ἐνδέω* *endeo* (to fall short, be wanting or lacking)

## 1 John 3:17-18

<sup>17</sup> If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? <sup>18</sup> Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.

# compassion

kəm'pəʃHən / *noun*

a concern for the sufferings others

So... How can we get our church more into meeting the needs of others than seeking fun for

10 Prayers for our church from Acts 4:31-37... Lord help us be by your grace to be:

## 9. (4:34b-35) A SACRIFICIAL Church

Acts 4:34-35 For there was not a needy person among them, for all who were owners of land or houses would sell them and bring the proceeds of the sales and lay them at the apostles' feet, and they would be distributed to each as any had need.

- Mt. 19:21, Mk. 10:21, Lk. 14:13-14, 19:8, Jn. 13:29,
- 1 Cor. 13:3, 1 Cor. 16:2,
- 2 Cor. 8:3-5, 11, 9:7-12

*Sell - πωλέω poleo: to exchange or barter, to sell*

*Bring - φέρω phero: to bear, carry, bring forth*

*Distribute - διαδίδωμι diadidomi: to hand over, distribute*



# Meeting the needs of others

Luke 10:25-37

So... How can we get our church to be more sacrificial as far as our time, talents, and treasure?

# A Sacrificial Church (meeting the needs of others through generous/sacrificial giving)

**2 Corinthians 8:1-5** And now, brothers, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. <sup>2</sup> Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. <sup>3</sup> For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, <sup>4</sup> they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints. <sup>5</sup> And they did not do as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us in keeping with God's will.

**2 Corinthians 9:4-15** <sup>4</sup> For if any Macedonians come with me and find you unprepared, we-- not to say anything about you-- would be ashamed of having been so confident. <sup>5</sup> So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to visit you in advance and finish the arrangements for the generous gift you had promised. Then it will be ready as a generous gift, not as one grudgingly given. <sup>6</sup> Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. <sup>7</sup> Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. <sup>8</sup> And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. <sup>9</sup> As it is written: "He has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." <sup>10</sup> Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. <sup>11</sup> You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. <sup>12</sup> This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. <sup>13</sup> Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. <sup>14</sup> And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. <sup>15</sup> Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

**1 Timothy 6:17-19** <sup>17</sup> Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. <sup>18</sup> Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. <sup>19</sup> In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

10 Prayers for our church from Acts 4:31-37... Lord help us be by your grace to be:

## 10. (4:36-37) An ENCOURAGING Church

Acts 4:36-37 Now Joseph, a Levite of Cyprian birth, who was also called Barnabas by the apostles (which translated means Son of Encouragement), and who owned a tract of land, sold it and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

- Acts 4:36, 11:23, 14:22, 15:31-32, 16:40, 18:27, 27:27-36,
- \*1Thess. 5:11,14,
- Heb. 3:13, 10:25

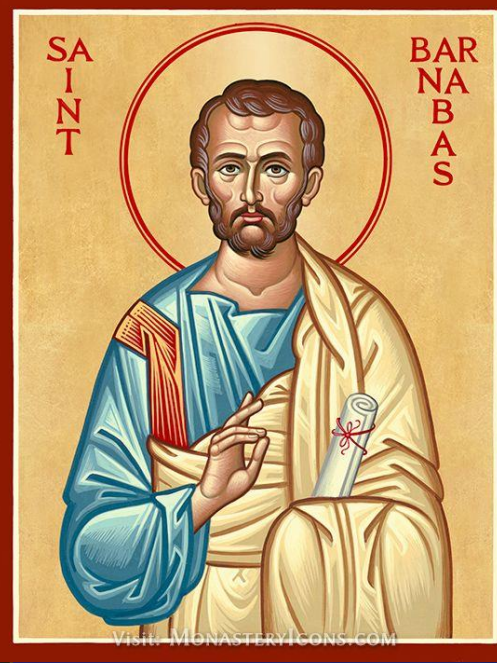
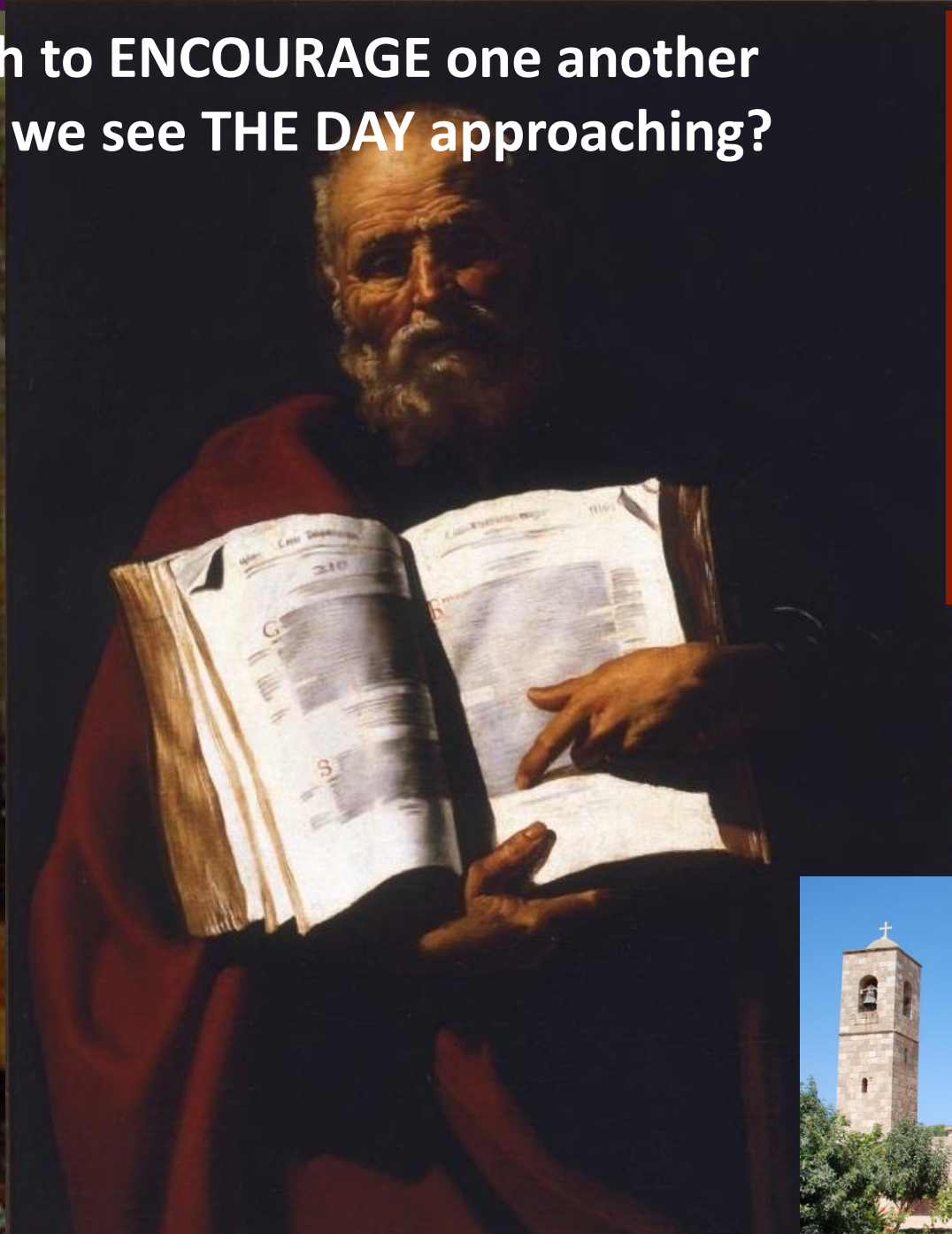
*παράκλησις paraklesis: a calling to one's aid, i.e. encouragement, comfort*

*Origin: παρακαλέω parakaleo: to call to or for, to exhort, to encourage*

So... How can we get our church to ENCOURAGE one another all the more as we see THE DAY approaching?



Алларамба Гомбурри, С. Варнава, евангелизатора на Македонија, XVIII век., Овдешки музеј, Македонија





# Βαρναβᾶς

Barnabas - bar-nab'-as –

NAS Word Usage - Total: 28

Barnabas = "son of rest"

the surname of Joses or Joseph, a Levite, a native of Cyprus He was a distinguished Christian teacher and companion and colleague of Paul.

of Aramaic origin (01247) and (05029)

Bar (Aramaic) –Son

NAS Word Usage - Total: 8

neb-ee' - prophet

NAS Word Usage - Total: 5

## Fox's Book of Martyr (chapter 2)

Barnabas

Was of Cyprus, but of Jewish descent, his death is supposed to have taken place about A.D. 73.

And yet, notwithstanding all these continual persecutions and horrible punishments, the Church daily increased, deeply rooted in the doctrine of the apostles and of men apostolical, and watered plentifully with the blood of saints.

# Barnabas - Also called JOSES

Nave's Bible Dictionary

A prophet - [Acts 13:1](#)

An apostle - [Acts 14:14](#)

A Levite who gave his possessions to be owned in common with other disciples - [Acts 4:36-37](#)

Brings him to the apostles - [Acts 9:25-27](#)

Accompanies Paul to Jerusalem - [Acts 11:30](#)

Returns with Paul to Antioch (of Syria) - [Acts 12:25](#)

Goes with Paul to Seleucia - [Acts 13](#)

Goes with Paul to Iconium - [Acts 14:1-7](#)

Called Jupiter (Zeus) - [Acts 14:12-18](#)

Goes to Derbe - [Acts 14:20](#)

Is sent as an emissary to Jerusalem - [Acts 15](#) ; [Galatians 2:1-9](#)

Disaffected toward Paul - [Acts 15:36-39](#)

Is reconciled to Paul - [1 Corinthians 9:6](#)

Piety of - [Acts 11:24](#)

Devotion of, to Jesus - [Acts 15:26](#)

## Treasury of Scriptural Knowledge

### Acts 4:36

And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas, (which is, being interpreted, The son of consolation,) a Levite, and of the country of Cyprus,

### Barnabas

Acts 11:22-25 Acts 11:30 12:25 13:1 Acts 15:2 Acts 15:12 Acts 15:37 1  
Corinthians 9:6 ; Galatians 2:1 Galatians 2:9 Galatians 2:13

### Cyprus

Acts 11:19 Acts 11:20 15:39 21:16

Barnabas - son of consolation, the surname of Joses, a Levite ( Acts 4:36 ). His name stands first on the list of prophets and teachers of the church at Antioch ( 13:1 ). Luke speaks of him as a "good man" ( 11:24 ). He was born of Jewish parents of the tribe of Levi. He was a native of Cyprus, where he had a possession of land ( Acts 4:36 Acts 4:37 ), which he sold. His personal appearance is supposed to have been dignified and commanding ( Acts 14:11 Acts 14:12 ). When Paul returned to Jerusalem after his conversion, Barnabas took him and introduced him to the apostles ( 9:27 ). They had probably been companions as students in the school of Gamaliel.

The prosperity of the church at Antioch led the apostles and brethren at Jerusalem to send Barnabas thither to superintend the movement. He found the work so extensive and weighty that he went to Tarsus in search of Saul to assist him. Saul returned with him to Antioch and laboured with him for a whole year ( Acts 11:25 Acts 11:26 ). The two were at the end of this period sent up to Jerusalem with the contributions the church at Antioch had made for the poorer brethren there ( 11:28-30 ). Shortly after they returned, bringing John Mark with them, they were appointed as missionaries to the heathen world, and in this capacity visited Cyprus and some of the principal cities of Asia Minor ( Acts 13:14 ). Returning from this first missionary journey to Antioch, they were again sent up to Jerusalem to consult with the church there regarding the relation of Gentiles to the church ( Acts 15:2 : Galatians 2:1 ). This matter having been settled, they returned again to Antioch, bringing the decree of the council as the rule by which Gentiles were to be admitted into the church.

When about to set forth on a second missionary journey, a dispute arose between Saul and Barnabas as to the propriety of taking John Mark with them again. The dispute ended by Saul and Barnabas taking separate routes. Saul took Silas as his companion, and journeyed through Syria and Cilicia; while Barnabas took his nephew John Mark, and visited Cyprus ( Acts 15:36-41 ). Barnabas is not again mentioned by Luke in the Acts.

## Smith's Bible Dictionary

### Barnabas

(son of consolation or comfort ) a name given by the apostles, ( Acts 4:36 ) to Joseph (or Jose), a Levite of the island of Cyprus, who was early a disciple of Christ. In ( Acts 9:27 ) we find him introducing the newly-converted Saul to the apostles at Jerusalem. Barnabas was sent to Jerusalem, ( Acts 11:19-26 ) and went to Tarsus to seek Saul, as one specially raised up to preach to the Gentiles. ( Acts 26:17 ) He brought him to Antioch, and was sent with him to Jerusalem. ( Acts 11:30 ) On their return, they were ordained by the church for the missionary work, ( Acts 13:2 ) and sent forth (A.D. 45). From this time Barnabas and Paul enjoy the title and dignity of apostles. Their first missionary journey is related in ( Acts 13:14 ) Returning to Antioch (A.D. 47 or 48), they were sent (A.D. 50), with some others, to Jerusalem. ( Acts 15:1 Acts 15:36 ) Afterwards they parted and Barnabas took Mark and sailed to Cyprus, his native island. Here the Scripture notices of him cease. The epistle attributed to Barnabas is believed to have been written early in the second century.

# International Standard Bible Encyclopedias

**BARNABAS** - bar'-na-bas (Barnabas, "son of exhortation," or possibly "son of Nebo"):

This name was applied to the associate of Paul, who was originally called Joses or Joseph (Acts 4:36), as a testimony to his eloquence. Its literal meaning is "son of prophecy" (bar, "son"; nebhu'ah, "prophecy"). Compare word for prophet in Genesis 20:7; Deuteronomy 18:15,18, etc. This is interpreted in Acts 4:36 as "son of exhortation" the Revised Version (British and American), or "son of consolation" the King James Version, expressing two sides of the Greek paraklesis, that are not exclusive. The office of a prophet being more than to foretell, all these interpretations are admissible in estimating Barnabas as a preacher. Deismann (Bibelstudien, 175-78) considers Barnabas the Jewish Grecized form of Barnebaus, a personal Semitic name recently discovered in Asia Minor inscriptions, and meaning "son of Nebo" (Standard Bible Dictionary in the place cited.).

He was a Levite from the island of Cyprus, and cousin, not "nephew" (the King James Version), of the evangelist Mark, the word anepsios (Colossians 4:10), being used in Numbers 36:11, for "father's brothers' sons." When we first learn of him, he had removed to Jerusalem, and acquired property there. He sold "a field," and contributed its price to the support of the poorer members of the church (Acts 4:36). In Acts 11:24 he is described as "a good man and full of the Holy Spirit" (compare Isaiah 11:2; 1 Corinthians 12:8,11) "and of faith," traits that gave him influence and leadership. Possibly on the ground of former acquaintanceship, interceding as Paul's sponsor and surety, he removed the distrust of the disciples at Jerusalem and secured the admission of the former persecutor into their fellowship. When the preaching of some of the countrymen of Barnabas had begun a movement toward Christianity among the Greeks at Antioch, Barnabas was sent from Jerusalem to give it encouragement and direction, and, after a personal visit, recognizing its importance and needs, sought out Paul at Tarsus, and brought him back as his associate. At the close of a year's successful work, Barnabas and Paul were sent to Jerusalem with contributions from the infant church for the famine sufferers in the older congregation (Acts 11:30). Ordained as missionaries on their return (Acts 13:3), and accompanied by John Mark, they proceeded upon what is ordinarily known as the "First Missionary Journey" of Paul (Acts 13:4,5). Its history belongs to Paul's life. Barnabas as well as Paul is designated "an apostle" (Acts 14:14). Up to Acts 13:43, the precedence is constantly ascribed to Barnabas; from that point, except in 14:14 and 15:12,25, we read "Paul and Barnabas," instead of "Barnabas and Saul." The latter becomes the chief spokesman. The people at Lystra named Paul, because of his fervid oratory, Mercurius, while the quiet dignity and reserved strength of Barnabas gave him the title of Jupiter (Acts 14:12). Barnabas escaped the violence which Paul suffered at Iconium (Acts 14:19).

Upon their return from this first missionary tour, they were sent, with other representatives of the church at Antioch, to confer with the apostles and elders of the church at Jerusalem concerning the obligation of circumcision and the ceremonial law in general under the New Testament--the synod of Jerusalem. A separation from Paul seems to begin with a temporary yielding of Barnabas in favor of the inconsistent course of Peter (Galatians 2:13). This was followed by a more serious rupture concerning Mark. On the second journey, Paul proceeded alone, while Barnabas and Mark went to Cyprus. Luther and Calvin regard 2 Corinthians 8:18,19 as meaning Barnabas by "the brother whose praise is spread through all the churches," and indicating, therefore, subsequent joint work. The incidental allusions in 1 Corinthians 9:6 and Galatians 2:13 ("even Barnabas") show at any rate Paul's continued appreciation of his former associate. Like Paul, he accepted no support from those to whom he ministered.

Tertullian, followed in recent years by Grau and Zahn, regard him as the author of the Epistle to the He. The document published among patristic writings as the Epistle of Barnabas, and found in full in the Codex Sinaiticus, is universally assigned today to a later period. "The writer nowhere claims to be the apostle Barnabas; possibly its author was some unknown namesake of 'the son of consolation' " (Lightfoot, Apostolic Fathers, 239 f). H. E. Jacobs

# SO WHAT?

## Application



**1 Thessalonians 5:11** Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing.

**Hebrews 3:13-14** But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called "Today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. For we have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end.

**Hebrews 10:24-25** and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.



# Conclusion: Acts 4:24-37

12 Prayers for our Church... Lord help us by your GRACE to be:

- A. **(4:24-26)** A SCRIPTURE/Truth Driven and Sharing Church (Ps. 25:10, 26:3, 31:5, 40:11, 57:10, 69:13, 85:10, 86:11, 89:14, 108:4, 111:7, 115:1, 117:2, 119:86, 90, 142, 151, 160, 138:2, \*145:18 Is. 65:16, Zech 8:8, John 1:14, 4:23, 8:32, 14:6, 16:13, 17:17, 1 Cor. 13:6, Eph. 4:21, 6:14, Col. 1:6, 1 Tim. 2:7, 1 John 3:18, 5:6, 2 Jn. 1:1, 1:3, 1:4, 3 Jn. 1:1, 1:3, 1:4, 1:8)
- B. **(4:27-28)** A SOVEREIGNTY of God Trusting Church (Ps. 103:19, Dan. 7:27, 1 Tim. 6:15)
  1. **(4:29-31a)** A PRAYING Church (Mt. 6:5-13, Lk. 18:1, Rom. 12:12, Col. 4:2, Eph. 6:18, 1 Thess. 5:7, Phil. 4:6)
  2. **(4:31b)** A SPIRIT driven Church (Lk. 1:15, 41, 67; Acts 2:4; 4:8, 31; 9:17; 13:9, \*52; Eph. 5:18)
  3. **(4:31c)** An EVANGELIZING Church (Mt. 28:18-20, Mark 16:15, Luke 24:47, John 20:31, Acts 1:8)
  4. **(4:32a)** A UNIFIED Church (Jn. 17:23, Acts 1:14,2:46,4:24,4:32,5:12,15:25, Rom. 15:6, Eph. 4:3,4:13, Phil. 1:27, 2:2, Col. 3:14)
  5. **(4:32b)** A SELFLESS Church (Acts 2:42-27,4:31-37,Rom. 12:10, Phil. 2:3, Gal.5:25-26, Eph.4:31-32, Col.3:12-17)
  6. **(4:33a)** A POWERFUL Church (Acts 4:33, 6:8) (Mt. 24:30, Mk. 13:26, Lk. 21:27, Rev. 11:17, 19:1)
  7. **(4:33b)** A GRACEFUL Church (Acts 4:33, 6:8, James 4:6) (John 1:14) (Titus 1:4, 1 Peter 1:2, 2 Peter 1:2)
  8. **(4:34a)** A COMPASSIONATE Church (Mt. 6:1-4,Acts 2:42-47, 4:31-37,James 1:27, 2:1-16,1 Jn. 3:17-18, 4:20-21, Dt. 15:7-8)
  9. **(4:34b-35)** A SACRIFICIAL Church (Mt. 19:21, Mk. 10:21, Lk. 14:13-14, 19:8, Jn. 13:29, 1 Cor. 13:3) (1 Cor. 16:2, 2 Cor. 8:3-5, 11, 9:7-12)
  10. **(4:36-37)** An ENCOURAGING Church (Acts 4:36,11:23,14:22,15:31-32,16:40,18:27,27:27-36, \*1Thess. 5:11,14,Heb. 3:13,10:25)